

CIVILIAN CORPS SELF-SUPPORTING

More Than 100,000 Men Over 35
Years of Age Learning Rudiments
of Soldiering.

PREPARING TO MEET ENEMY

Members Often Those Whose
Sons or Employees Already
Are at Front.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.]
LONDON, November 28.—More than
100,000 civilians over thirty-five years
of age are now learning the rudiments
of soldiering in self-supporting corps.
They are not as yet officially recog-
nized, but if the enemy ever landed on
Britain's shores their services would
surely be utilized. They have done
much good work already.

The self-supporting corps are made
up of business and professional men
for whom golf, billiards and the like
have seemed inane in those stirring
days. The member is often a man
whose employees or sons are now at
the front.

The first advantage gained by the
joining of a corps is that the man at
once voluntarily accepts discipline; his
civilian life is largely made up of "giving
orders" and it is a new thing to
have to follow orders. He finds that
it is hard to swallow at first, and then
he likes it. He gets keen on doing
what he is told, and hastens to become
efficient. Thus he becomes under con-
trol. He learns to form four, to stand
at attention, to become part of a great
machine.

He feels fit, fresh and ready for hard
work. He learns for the first time how
heavy a gun is, he realizes faintly the
hardship of carrying such a weapon all
day, let alone of shooting with it. He
practices shooting, and comes to under-
stand how many things go into the mak-
ing of a good rifle shot. He begins to
"feel" the spirit of soldiering; he gets
a point of view on recruiting which
is vastly illuminating.

If the worst comes, invasion
comes large, he can shoulder a gun
and fire it, he can march twenty miles
without fatigue, he can get orders—
he is disciplined. He will not fight
like a madman, but calmly and effi-
ciently.

THOUSANDS OF REFUGEES

PROMPTLY CARED FOR

If he is not wanted as a fighter, he
is one of a band of men who know
what organization is. And he him-
self is organized. He can relieve the
country of one of its fighters, and
serve in his place as a worker. Thou-
sands of Belgian refugees were re-
ceived, housed and cared for by means
of a fund raised by a private group—
the war refugees committee. But they
were a problem to face; the police were
very busy, soldiers could not be spared,
and these unfortunate children and men
had to be met at the various
railway stations.

The optimists' National Corps volun-
teers for the work, and their ser-
vices were gratefully appreciated.
These men were uniformed, and, there-
fore, easily identified; they inspired re-
spect on the part of the distressed
women and children. They met in
trains, they put their charges in the
omnibuses, cleared the platforms quick-
ly, found missing relatives, acted as
escorts to hotels and residences, and
properly delivered their charges, and
saw that they were fed comfortably.

Archibald Hurd, the naval critic, fig-
ures the losses of Germany, Austria
and Turkey at 1,200,000 tons. He
calculates that roughly every ton—
averaging the outlay on battleships,
cruisers, destroyers and submarines,
and the cost of the war—represents a
sum of \$2,000. The total aggregate naval capital being
\$2,500,000,000.

This sum corresponds, roughly, to the
amount spent on their debts by
Germany, Austria-Hungary and Tur-
key during the past fifteen years, the
effective life of a battleship or cruiser.

ENGLAND HAS HER FIRST

WOMAN TOWN CRIER

England has her first woman town
crier. She is Mrs. Blaker, who is now
serving at Chertsey while her hus-
band, Sergeant Blaker, the holder of
the Victoria Cross, is in the front line.

The functions of town crier of
Chertsey have for several generations
been performed by the Blaker family.
At the moment, only the holder of
the office is serving with the Terri-
torials, but his only son also has en-
listed. On these circumstances the
feoffees permitted Mrs. Blaker to oc-
cupy the office temporarily.

Her husband is attached to Mrs.
Blaker's first appearance. In view of
the fact that recently a picturesque
Georgian uniform had been provided
for the office holder, the holder of the
office for use on official occasions.

Mrs. Blaker succeeded in effecting
an admirable compromise, wearing the
three-cornered hat, the long, heavily-
lined coat, the yellow stockings and
heavily-plated shoes, but sub-
stituting a dark skirt for the nether
garments of her husband.

She fulfilled her functions most suc-
cessfully, her powerful voice being
distinctly audible at a distance of
fifty yards, and her salute, as she pro-
nounced the words, "God save the
King" at the close of each crying was
of soldier-like smartness. She carried
a heavy staff of office, but used a
smaller bell than does her husband.

EIGHT MEN FACE DEATH

To Be Executed in Arkansas Within 10 Days, Beginning Wednesday.

LITTLE ROCK, ARK., November 28.—
Eight men, four whites and four
negroes, will pay the death penalty in
the electric chair in Arkansas within
sixteen days, beginning next Wed-
nesday.

McLaughlin, who is sentenced
to be electrocuted December 2, was the
first white man sent to the electric
chair in Arkansas. A number of
negroes have been executed since
hanging was abolished two years ago
and electrocution substituted as the
means of capital punishment.

McLaughlin was convicted of attack-
ing a young woman near Ozark, Ark.,
and was sentenced to be electrocuted
for the murder of a woman named
Arthur Haddock, convicted of killing
a constable near Arkadelphia, and
Joe Strong and Clarence Dowling, for
killing W. H. Cross, an aged store-
keeper, near Benton.

The four negroes were all convicted
of murder.

SPIRIT OF AUSTRIAN FORCES EXCELLENT

Officers and Men Speak of
Situation as Highly
Satisfactory.

BETTER WEATHER SETS IN

Trip From Vienna to Galician
Front Reveals Signs of Con-
fidence Everywhere.

[Correspondence of Associated Press.]
AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN GENERAL
FIELD HEADQUARTERS, PIENES DE-
PARTMENT, GALICIAN FRONT, No-
vember 28.—The spirit of the Austro-
Hungarian forces is excellent. Officers
and men who come to this point speak
of the situation as highly satisfactory.
By now even the veriest private seems
to have learned that losing ground is
not always a calamity, and that, as
has been already demonstrated, the
strategical retreat is of necessity an
attending phase of the "position"
fighting, of which there has been so
much in both the eastern and western
battlegrounds.

Meanwhile, better weather has set
in in Galicia. For the last two weeks
the leaden sky has shown large rifts,
through which peeps with increasing
frequency a sun that seems oddly im-
potent, but which at least is the promise
that there will be no more rain that
day. Now the rivers are low, the
fields comparatively dry, and the
roads are once more passable, made
so largely by the army engineers, who
have not been found lacking in effi-
ciency. During the first stages of the
war the army wheel transportation
cut deep into the surface of the
roads, and the many hoofs converted
them into quagmires. Now, and with
no rain to keep the foundation soft,
it is possible again to move about
with ease, and what is more impor-
tant, good speed.

BETTER WEATHER

IS BOON FOR TROOPS

The better weather has also been
a boon for the troops and their animals.
It is said here to be easier to
guard against the discomforts of cold
than against those brought on by wet
weather. Moreover, the fall rains in
Galicia and Poland are attended by a
very low temperature, so low, in fact,
that the higher elevations of the Car-
pathian mountains are covered with
snow, though none of them exceeds
5,000 feet in altitude, and most of them
are much lower.

Trip from Vienna to the Galician
front is not as exciting or even inter-
esting as one might think. The war
has lasted long enough here to have
lost the quality of novelty. Every-
where one sees signs of confidence. In
the larger and smaller cities military
operations are going on; husky peasants,
men and women alike, plow the
fields or harvest the sugar beet, potato
and other crops, and the active rail-
road traffic is only in part of a military
character.

Almost the only reminder of war is
an occasional Red Cross train, going
to, or returning from, the front. There
is, however, a rather lively military
passenger traffic on the regular trains,
and one notices that all bridges, tun-
nels and stations are guarded by sold-
iers. This is the case throughout the
parts of Austria and Hungary which
are traversed on the way to the Gal-
ician front. In upper Hungary one
sees large droves of cattle, however,
the men in the trenches could only be
surely these "round ups" go through
the Waag and Arva valleys, towards
the Galician border, following high-
ways that lead in and out the hills
and mountains.

Now and then, too, one meets small
groups of stolid and massively built
men, in uniform, in charge of a man
in uniform—recruits of a government
may be said to be still in the process
of mobilization.

SUFFRAGE IS STATE ISSUE

President Wilson Again Defends His Position on Question.

WASHINGTON, November 28.—Presi-
dent Wilson again today defined his
position on woman suffrage in a letter
to Miss Mary M. Childs, a government
employee here, reiterating that he be-
lieved the question to be a State issue.

"I am deeply impressed with the
woman suffrage question," wrote the
President, "but I believe it can best
be worked out State by State rather
than by attempting a change in the
fundamental law of the nation. Such
a change would run too far and too
fast ahead of the general public opin-
ion of the country."

The President will see a delegation
of strategists in the near future, but
is not expected to change his position
announced again in this letter.

STOICALLY BEAR TAX BURDEN

People in England Accept Change Without Complaint.

[Correspondence of Associated Press.]
LONDON, November 28.—England is
accepting its new burden of taxation
with a stoicism the strongest govern-
ment of war conditions. In normal
times the announcement of David
Lloyd George's latest budget would
have caused a storm that would have
overthrown the strongest government
and probably ten years of cautious ad-
vance would not have prepared the
people for such radical increase in the
burden of taxation. Even the half-
penny tax on a glass of beer, which
likely have caused the death of half a
dozen governments, and the doubling
of the income tax would have met with
the fiercest opposition.

But war changes all things, and not
the least astonishing thing is the
plan seriously proposed by Arthur Hen-
derson, Labor leader in the House of
Commons, and acquiesced in by the
Chancellor of the Exchequer, that
workmen's wages be taxed to re-
place indirect taxes, such as the tea
and sugar duties, which now falls so
heavily and unevenly on the working
class. An income tax on wages and
the free breakfast table has long been
a battle cry of tax reformers, but such
a proposition would scarcely have been
seriously proposed in the House of
Commons in normal times.

The four negroes were all convicted
of murder.

ROYAL EXAMPLE ENTHUSES PEOPLE

King Albert of Belgium and De-
voted Consort Leading War-
like Existence.

NOW LIVING IN MODEST ABODE

Scene of Great Enthusiasm When
Subjects Recognize Them
at Church Service.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.]
PARIS, November 28.—King Albert
and his devoted consort are now lead-
ing a warlike existence in the one lit-
tle corner of their devastated king-
dom which is still free from the in-
vading Germans.

The modest, resourcefulness and
indefatigable devotion to duty dis-
played by Queen Elizabeth, and the
loyalty, constancy and heroism of
King Albert have, ever since the be-
ginning of the war, proved the great-
est comfort and consolation to their
people. The royal example has stimu-
lated their subjects to the heroic ef-
forts which have been made through-
out the land during their time of
trouble, and has inspired them with
confidence in the future.

King Albert and his Queen, who so
often found themselves obliged to re-
treat before the advancing enemy, al-
ways waited to the last moment be-
fore following their own army. Only
on one occasion did Queen Elizabeth
leave her husband's side; that was
when Her Majesty's carriage and chil-
dren to England, out of reach of the
bombs of the Zeppelins, which in Ant-
werp made so many attempts to wreck
the royal residence. She had hardly
settled her family in England when
King Albert telegraphed for her to
return to Antwerp.

"Why ask Her Majesty to return?"
ventured to ask M. Ingelbeck, private
secretary to King Albert. "The po-
sition, I fear, has not at all improved."
"That is just my reason," replied
the King of the Belgians, "for the
Queen must see for herself the situa-
tion, and if the situation became grave."
Two days later the Queen was back
in Antwerp, and only left when the
King turned his back upon the doomed
city. Later, at Ostend, where the King
was obliged to leave with his general
staff, Queen Elizabeth remained be-
hind, and could not be persuaded to
go until she had satisfied herself that
all the wounded had been removed.
It was only an hour after her depart-
ure that the advance guard of the
Germans entered the town.

LIVE IN MODEST ABODE

IN THEIR BELOVED LAND

Since then the Belgian sovereigns
have lived in a modest abode, but still
on their beloved territory. This must
help to cheer and strengthen them,
for, at least, they have not been
obliged to exile their family.

A few days ago, early in the morn-
ing, when the sun had barely risen,
a bell was ringing, summoning the faith-
ful to prayer in the village church. The
door of the village opened, and a man
in the dress uniform of a Belgian
general. He was followed by a
sergeant and a soldier, and a white-
laced platoon of the King's Guard.
The King, who, until then, had been
walking with his eyes looking upon
the ground, raised his head. He took
from his pocket a pair of field glasses
and gazed up into the air. He soon
recognized to what nationality it be-
longed, for he turned to the Queen and
said, "That is a French machine."
"That is a French machine," he re-
plied. "For a moment or two they
stood and watched the aviator flying
towards the enemy's lines, then the
King pushed the machine door gently
open, and they both entered. The
church was crowded, but no one recog-
nized them. This King and Queen of
sorrow chose a seat near the back of
the aisle and knelt by each other's
side in silent prayer.

PRIEST RECOGNIZES

THEIR MAJESTIES

Later on, during mass, they moved
noiselessly up to a little side chapel
on the north side of the altar. At the
altar stood the priest, the priest, the
King, who, until then, had been
walking with his eyes looking upon
the ground, raised his head. He took
from his pocket a pair of field glasses
and gazed up into the air. He soon
recognized to what nationality it be-
longed, for he turned to the Queen and
said, "That is a French machine."
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church was crowded, but no one recog-
nized them. This King and Queen of
sorrow chose a seat near the back of
the aisle and knelt by each other's
side in silent prayer.

By this time some of the worshippers
had recognized them, and the news
spread rapidly. The congregation had
moved out of the church, and when
their Majesties appeared, they re-
ceived them in sympathetic silence, respec-
tfully bowing; then suddenly a little
girl waved her hand and cried, "Vive
la reine! Vive la Belgique!"

A roar went up, and the scene of
the greatest enthusiasm ensued. It
was a touching and moving scene,
and the King and Queen, who had
their subjects, trying in vain to hide
their emotion.

Slowly they retraced their steps
along the path by the sea, whose
waters were close up to the villa
which serves them as a refuge. They
walked side by side; they looked sad,
they did not realize, perhaps, that by
their simple act of devotion in attend-
ing mass in a common village church,
they had left an indelible impression
upon that congregation that will not
be forgotten in Belgium.

BANK OF CASWELL CLOSED;

CASWELL HAS DISAPPEARED

[Special to The Times-Dispatch.]
RICHMOND, N. C., November 28.—State
Bank Examiner Hubbard telegraphed the
Corporation Commission this evening
that he has taken charge of the Bank of
Caswell. Hubbard telegraphed the
Caswell E. Hines, Jr., has disappeared,
leaving behind a note to the effect that he was
short a considerable sum. There was no
information of any trouble with this bank.
The bank was founded in 1908, had \$300,000
capital and \$2,500,000 F. B. Jones is
president of the bank.

NO PROBLEM BUT HAS ITS SOLUTION



While the Tag Day Season is in Full Bloom This Worthy Object Should Not Be Overlooked.

FRENCH OFFICER SAVES GERMAN AVIATOR'S LIFE

Airman, in Letter to His Father,
Tells of Recent Thrilling
Experience.

SHOOT DOWN THREE OF ENEMY

Then Chivalrous Cry of Foeman Pre-
vents Him From Being Killed by
Comrades of Dead Men—Treated
With Perfect Politeness.

[Special Cable to The Times-Dispatch.]
ROTTERDAM, November 28.—A
German aviator, who owes his life to
a French officer's chivalrous cry,
writes to his father:

"It is a miracle that I am still
alive after my experiences of the last
few days. I left one morning in my
aeroplane with Lieutenant J., an aviator
of first rank, to reconnoitre the
movements of the enemy's troops near
Sedan. Near Betrix we were caught
in rain clouds and had to descend to
1,000 yards. Immediately we heard
the sound of shots. A whole division
of the enemy was firing at us.

"J., who was piloting, was struck
in the stomach. The motor stopped
working, and the aeroplane descended
gradually in a volplane towards the
enemy's lines. When we were about
500 yards above them, the machine
dipped suddenly. I turned around and
saw that J. had fallen back in his
seat, dead. A second bullet had
struck him in the forehead. I seized
the controls and managed to restore
the equilibrium of the machine. I was
aiming at the forest beyond the
French lines.

"The minutes during which I plan-
ed at a height of 200 yards above the
enemy seemed an eternity. Rifle bul-
lets whistled around my head, and
suddenly I felt a violent shock in the
temple. Blood poured down and near-
ly blinded me, but I still held my
head on the controls.

DEAD BODY OF COMRADE

INTERFERES WITH STEERING

"But the machine struck an air-
pocket, almost capsized, and as the
dead body of my comrade interfered
with my steering, I had to land among
the enemy.

"When the biplane struck the
ground it turned right over and flung
me to a considerable distance. French
soldiers ran at me from every side.
"I took out my revolver and shot
down three. A moment later I felt
a bayonet point against my breast.
"The officer ran up, shouting:
"Don't kill him; he is a brave man."
"The cry saved my life. I was taken
to a general, who asked me for cer-
tain information, which I refused to
give. Then from loss of blood I faint-
ed, and was carried back to the ambu-
lance, where the bullet that had struck
me in the forehead was extracted. It
had not smashed the bone, for its
force had been broken by my aviator's
helmet.

"They dressed my wound, and gave
me red wine to drink. I must say the
officers behaved toward me with great
correctness and perfect politeness."
The aviator then recounts how, dur-
ing the confusion caused by a German
attack, he succeeded in escaping and
returning to his own lines.

SITUATION IN POLAND CONTINUES A MYSTERY

Official Statements Do Not Confirm
Reports of Great Russian
Victory.

TELL OF MINOR OPERATIONS

Grand Duke Nicholas Sums Up De-
velopments With Declaration That
on Entire Front Battle Is Pro-
gressing in His Favor.

LONDON, November 28.—While
newspaper reports from Petrograd
continue to claim a victory in North-
ern Poland comparable at least to Se-
dan, and even worthy to rank with
the disaster which Russia inflicted
upon Napoleon, official communications
shed but little light on the situation
in Poland. An official dispatch from
Grand Duke Nicholas, commander-in-
chief of the Russian forces in the
field, while of considerable length,
concerns itself largely with more or
less isolated operations, and does not
claim the infliction of an overwhelm-
ing defeat upon the invaders.

The grand duke sums up the situ-
ation on the entire front between the Vistula
and Warthe Rivers the battle is pro-
gressing in favor of Russian arms.

Both Berlin and Vienna still claim
that no decisive result has followed
the recent operations in Russian Pol-
and. On the western bank, the Ger-
man position prevails, the only hint
of activity being found in the report
from Holland that the British fleet
was operating against the Ger-
man positions on the Belgian coast.

The visit of Sir Roger Casement,
who became famous as the investi-
gator of the Putnam rubber atro-
city, to Berlin Foreign Office is
being prominently featured by
London papers. The comment, how-
ever, is rather reserved. On the whole,
the press seems frankly puzzled by
the episode, which indicates that di-
rect negotiations between Germany
and the extreme section of the Irish
Nationalists have been going on.

The British public has been greatly
reassured by the statement of Win-
ston Spencer Churchill, First Lord
of the Admiralty, concerning the naval
position of the empire. This has been
repeated by the official French
report that the combined fleet, as
only have command of the Mediter-
ranean, but are maintaining a suc-
cessful blockade of the Adriatic and the
Dardanelles.

From Petrograd comes a much-de-
layed account of a surprise attack by
a Russian fleet, which, it is claimed,
resulted in serious disaster to the Ger-
man Baltic squadron in September.

TROOPS POUR INTO FRANCE

Steady Stream of Transports From England to Havre.

[Correspondence of Associated Press.]
HAVRE, FRANCE, November 19.—
Directly following Lord Kitchener's
speech at the Lord Mayor's banquet in
London, in which he said he had 1,250,
000 men ready to land in France, there
has been a steady stream of transports
from England to Havre. As many as
200 ships of various sizes have been
lying outside the harbor at one time.
Men are being landed as fast as the
ships can find berths. The troops are
mostly territorials, but well seasoned.
After a march from the docks through
the streets of Havre, cheering and be-
ing cheered, they disappear.

GERMAN ATTEMPT TO REACH COAST IS NOT IN EARNEST

Continued Calm on Battle-
fields Just North of
French Border.

ONE INFANTRY ATTACK

REPULSED BY ALLIES

Formidable Movement Against
British Forces in Egypt
Reported.

ON MARCH TOWARD SUEZ CANAL

Situation in Russian Poland Remains
as Much a Mystery as
Ever.

The German attack in Belgium just
north of the French border continues,
although not with sufficient force to
indicate that the expected new attempt
to pierce the line and force a way to
the English Channel has been begun
in earnest. Only one infantry attack
was made in that region on Friday,
and it was repulsed, says yesterday's
French official announcement.

A German aeroplane carrying three
men was brought down by artillery
fire, the French War Office reports,
resulting in the death of one of the
aviators and the capture of the others.
The German artillery fire is said to
be diminishing in intensity, and in some
districts to have suffered severely from
the French guns.

CONFRONTED WITH NECESSITY

OF ENERGETIC ACTION

England is confronted with the neces-
sity of energetic action, according to
advice from Berlin, to protect her
interests in the Suez Canal. A report
from Cairo to Berlin is to the effect
that the movement against British
forces in Egypt has assumed formidable
proportions, 75,000 Turkish troops be-
ing sent to the Suez Canal. In the hostile army opposed
by long lines of British forces in trenches
it is said that there are 10,000 Bel-
odians. Interest attaches to this re-
port, chiefly because of the reser-
vation of the Sultan of Turkey, pro-
claiming upon Mohammedans the world
over to rise to arms against Great
Britain. The British War Office has
been led to uprisings affecting
British interests elsewhere, although
in Belgium the artillery exchange
reports from Berlin of discussion in
India.

GERMAN BATTLESHIP

REPORTED DESTROYED

The destruction of a German battle-
ship is reported from the Baltic. The
Wilhelm der Grosse is said to have been
sunk by a mine in the Baltic, but
there was no confirmation of the re-
port.

An official communication from the
Russian army of the Caucasus tells
of further heavy fighting by the Rus-
sian forces which have invaded Tur-
key, but gives no indication of the
outcome.

The situation in Russian Poland was
as much of a mystery as ever. Pri-
vate dispatches from Petrograd make
no mention of the Russian army, but
are overwhelmed by the Germans, but
they are not confirmed officially.

Grand Duke Nicholas, the Russian
commander, reports successes in sev-
eral attacks in the south of No-
vember 27 without any particular in-
cident. The heavy German artillery
shows less activity. There was but
one attack of infantry from the south
of Ypres, which was repulsed by our
troops.

"Toward the evening our artillery
brought down a German biplane car-
rying three men. One of the men
was killed and the other two were
made prisoners.

"In the region of Arras and further
to the south there has been no change.
The day passed very quietly in the
region of the Aisne. In Champagne
our heavy artillery inflicted serious
losses on the artillery of the enemy.

"From the west of the Vosges
there is nothing to report."

SITUATION UNCHANGED

IN WESTERN AREAS

BERLIN, November 28 (via London,
4:30 P. M.).—The German War Office
gave out an announcement this after-
noon as follows:

"In the western arena of the war the
situation to-day is unchanged. French
attacks in the Argonne forest have
been repulsed. In the forest north-
west of Apremont, and in the Vosges,
we occupied some French trenches, after
an obstinate resistance.

"Only minor engagements are
reported from East Prussia. At Lodz
our troops have recommenced their at-
tacks, and the fighting continues.

"The Russian attacks in the dis-
trict to the west of Moscow and Radom
were repulsed.

"In Southern Poland there has been
no change.

GERMAN OPERATIONS

ABSOLUTE FAILURES

LEMBERG, GALICIA, November 28
(via Petrograd and London, 2:30 P. M.).
—In operations lasting three days in
the vicinity of Strzykow, fifteen miles
north of Lodz, and Ruzhin, an equal
distance to the south of this city, the
Germans lost upwards of 17,000 men,
a heavy battery of artillery and twenty-
eight machine guns, according to au-
thoritative information made available
in Lemberg to-day.

In the same fighting the Austrians
lost 18,000 men, in addition to twenty
machine guns.